Cooperation in Steel Sector

†2572. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the names of such countries who are either co-operating or wish to co-operate the steel sector;

(b) the number of such units who are extending cooperation at present with the present production capacity thereof.

(c) whether any agreement have been signed with all such countries who are interested to cooperate in this field; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) to (d) India has signed inter-governmental cooperation agreements/MoUs, with Russia, China and Iran in steel sector. These agreements *inter-alia* include the following issues;

(i) Support and encourage steel enterprises and companies in the steel sector to participate in mutual trade and cooperation.

(ii) Promote exports of raw material for steel making and finished steel from India.

(iii) Promote the exchange and transfer of improved iron and steel making technologies.

(iv) Exchange information and literature to apprise each other of the developments in the iron and steel industry in both countries.

Steel Plants and Rolling Mills in Pubic Sector

2573. SHRI P. SOUNDARARAJAN : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) how many steel plants and rolling mills are there in public sector;

(b) the details of such plants with capacities;

(c) the profit/loss made by each of these plants during the last three years; and

(d) which are the plants declared/likely to be declared sick with the reasons therefor ?

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) and (b) The details of the capacities of the steel plants and rolling mills in the public sector are as under :

Name of the steel plant/rolling mill	Saleable steel capacity in ('000 tonnes)
SAIL's plants/units/subsidiaries :	
Bhilai Steel Plant	3153
Durgapur Steel Plant	1586
Rourkela Steel Plant	1671
Bokaro Steel Plant	3780
Alloy Steel Plant, Durgapur	184
Visvesevarya Iron & Steel Plant, Bhadravati	77
Salem Steel Plant, Salem (rolling mill)	175
Indian Iron and Steel Company (IISCO)	300*
Visakhapatnam Steel Plant	2656

*(capacity of IISCO is of crude steel)

(c) The Plant-wise profit and loss for the last three years is as under :

(Rs. in Crores)

	BSP	DSP	RSP	BSL	ASP	SSP	VISL*	IISCO	VSP
1996-97	684	-236	-316	357	-67	-38	-	-213	-246
1997-98	701	-509	-374	367	-88	-120	-	-395	-177
1998-99	301	-719	-765	-165	-179	-180	-74	-357	-457
1999-2000 (April-Dec)	-257	-577	-795	-236	-172	-122	-54	-319	-346

*VISL was merged with SAIL w.e.f. 1-4-1999.

(d) IISCO has been declared sick and referred to BIFR in June, 1994. The main reason for losses in IISCO is its obsolete technology.

Visakhapatnam Steel Plant (VSP) has not been declared as sick but has been reported to BIFR, under the Sick Industrial Companies Act, as its net losses have eroded 50% of its net worth. The losses of VSP are mainly due to high capital related charges *i.e.* interest and depreciation and sluggish market conditions prevailing in domestic and international markets.

Welfare of Tribals in Uttar Pradesh

†2574. SHRI MANOHAR KANT DHYANI : Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there was a provision of Rs. 700 crores for the welfare of tribals in the budget for the year 1999-2000; and

(b) if so, the amount out of this provided to Uttar Pradesh and the number of persons who have been benefited from the said amount alongwith the names of the districts?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM) : (a) The provision in R. E. 1999-2000 in respect of various schemes/programmes for the welfare of Tribals implemented by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs was as follows:—

Plan Rs. 684.25 crore (inclusive of Rs. 62.75 crore for Post-Matric Scholarship for Tribals implemented by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.

Non-Plan Rs. 0.19 crore.

(b) A statement is enclosed.

† Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.